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The housing situation of the masses did not improve during the 20 years between wars. On the contrary, it became worse. The few prewar housing projects were rented to yield maximum profit, and were inaccessible to the working class.

The present building program cannot be compared with the prewar building program quantitatively or qualitatively. In 1950, the increase in new rooms was 68,000, and nearly 88,000 are to be completed in 1951. The construction is planned not for the wealthy minority but for the working masses. The dwellings will be well lighted and will have proper sanitary facilities. They will not be hovels in basements or garrets, or temporary barracks situated in some remote suburb lacking communal facilities. The construction projects will include individual houses, settlements, and entire cities. Prime consideration will be given to the welfare of the occupants, the working people.

The extensive repair program, for which the state is spending millions, is also intended to correct existing housing conditions. The repair of miners' dwellings alone reached 16,000 rooms in 1949, 46,000 rooms in 1950, and will reach 92,000 rooms in 1951.

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